

SUMMARY

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION OF PHARMACY ASSISTANTS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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INTRODUCTION: The aim of the present diploma thesis is to map the area of the professional preparation of the pharmaceutical assistants in the Czech Republic before they commence career and after that.

OBJECTIVE: To examine how the conditions of the undergraduate and postgraduate studies are perceived from the very perspective of the pharmaceutical assistants, which positives and negatives they find in relation to these questions. On the basis of the evaluated data, to suggest possible ways of eliminating demerits and improving the current education system.

METHODS: For the method of research, questionnaires focusing on the opinions of respondents-the pharmaceutical assistants- on the subject were used. Both paper and electronic questionnaires were used and during the period starting in November 2010 and ending in October 2011 we were able to assemble 140 filled out questionnaires. The main database consisted of them. The programme that was used to process the data was Microsoft Excel

RESULTS: Among the most important subjects at the medical colleges, 67,1 % of the pharmaceutical assistants brands pharmacology, 51,4 % psychology and communication, 42,1 % foreign language and 40,0 % pharmacy practice. As the best form of fulfilling criteria of studies in the credit system, 92, 0% of the respondents chose a passive presence at the training sessions and 35,7 % went for e-learning. 91,4 % of respondents consider broadening of their knowledge as the most significant merit of the training, while for 65,7 % of them, it is the practical use of the acquired knowledge.

78,6 % of pharmaceutical assistants sees the time demands as the essential demerit, and 78,6 % of them sees it in the demands on finances. As the reasons for not fulfilling the duty of lifelong learning as defined by law, 45,4 % of the respondents stated the absence of the requirements from the side of the employer, 27,3 % high financial demands, 18,2 % high time demands, and 9,1 % low quality of education.

CONCLUSION: Several conclusions can be made on the basis of the research results. I found out that the current educational system is sufficient and there is no need to change it. There is a correspondence between the subjects preferred by the pharmaceutical assistants and the subjects taught at the medical colleges. The pharmaceutical assistants tend to take part in life long education and only a minority of them does not meet this duty defined by law. Pharmaceutical assistants also show an interest to be registered to perform their work without expert supervision. More than a half of the respondents would not like officially give out prescription-only medicaments.